



**In the claims:**

Please substitute the following full listing of claims for the claims as originally filed or most recently amended.

1. (Previously presented) A keyboard apparatus, comprising:  
a frame;  
a link bearing, provided on the frame and having an elongated hole;  
a link, slidably engaged with the elongated hole of the link bearing at a first end; and  
a stopper, provided on the frame, which, when in contact with a second end of the link, positions the link at an assembling position in the elongated hole,  
wherein the link is disposed at the assembling position in the elongated hole when a key top is assembled to the link.
2. (Original) The keyboard apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the stopper has an inclined face; and  
wherein the link laid down on the frame is moved down along the inclined face of the stopper by its own weight so that the link is automatically set in the assembling position.
3. (Original) The keyboard apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the frame is constituted by a metal plate; and  
wherein the link bearing and the stopper are formed by subjecting the metal plate to a sheet metal process so that a metal base frame for the keyboard apparatus is formed.
- 4-7. Canceled